

September 2015

Inez M. Farrington Correspondence

Inez McAllister Farrington 1904-1981

Hilda McLeod Jacob
Maine State Library

Maine State Library

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FARRINGTON, Inez M (Mrs. Harold)

b. East Stoneham

Writing's nothing new for Mrs. Inez M. Farrington, East Stoneham housewife. She's been writing for years — pieces for the paper, free lance articles for magazines, poetry — reams of poetry.

But writing a book's a new venture. She has completed one about life in her neck of the woods. It's now in the hands of her publisher. The presses await a few more orders, she says. It's entitled *So Goes The Nation*.

People who have read the book in the rough hail it a charming picture of life in Maine. Among them is Ruth Weller Nelson of Iowa City, who provided Inez with photographs from the Nelson collection of Maine negatives



Photo by Quinn
Racy Writer

with which to illustrate the book. Miss Nelson's a summer resident of Oxford County. *So Goes The Nation* isn't just a book for Maine people, she says. It's a must with people who Summer in Maine.

"It was fun for me to learn what goes on in Maine during those long months while I am back in Iowa looking forward to my next season in Maine. No summer resident should miss seeing himself as the natives see him. For, in her homespun style, Inez spills the beans and lets us know what Maine folks mean when they say of us summer people, 'We like to see 'em come and we like to see 'em go.'"

"I enjoyed following the Farringtons through 12 months of the year—deep snow in January, berry-picking in July, family jaunts in the mountains in August, banking the house in November."

Inez Farrington's one of the East Stoneham McAlisters. She's known best to Maine people as a stock car racing fan and a Democrat. She was elected president of the Pine State Stock Car Racing Association's Ladies' Auxiliary when it was formed and handled the program sales at the Oxford Plains Speedway last season. She beat the drums for that sport for several seasons in a column, *Be A Sport*, which she wrote for the *Norway Advertiser-Democrat*. Long active in the affairs of the party, she has been vice chairman of the Oxford County Democratic Committee and is now a member of the State Committee. Which may have some inverse relation to the title she chose for her book?

She also likes wrestling. The Farringtons have five children, three boys and two girls. Inez' husband is Harold Farrington, who keeps right on tuning up automobiles around East Stoneham while she hammers out her manuscript.

Inez likes speedboat and motorcycle racing, too, drives all over

New England to watch the jallopies, motorboats and motorcycles snort, roar and skid.

It was her enthusiasm for what the sports writers dismiss as the grunTERS and groanERS which got her into the writing business for money. She was a regular contributor to *Ring Magazine* for several years, until it changed hands and she lost her in—a frequent fate of the free lancer. She also got 100 bucks once for an article she sold to the *Red Book*. Her poetry has been published in *The Pine Cone* and other magazines and papers, read over the radio. She's a member of the Maine Poetry Fellowship.

She's an active Pythian Sister and a member of the Maine Past Chiefs Association. She likes lodge work, and most everything else in life except thunderstorms and rhubarb pie.

Illness last year put her behind schedule on writing *So Goes The Nation*. But she finally completed it last Winter and now is working over another book—also about Maine. She plans to call it *Next Door Neighbor*.

P S T
8/3/53

Inez M. Farrington Writes Family Story



Inez M. Farrington

Falmouth Publishing House will bring out June 14 "*Maine is Forever*," a personal story by Inez M. Farrington of East Stoneham.

Mrs. Farrington is a member of the Maine Poetry Fellowship. She is active in the Pythian Sisters, Past Chiefs' Association, and the State Democratic Committee.

"*Maine is Forever*," is a family log on which Mrs. Farrington has worked for two years. It is a story of life in rural Maine, illustrated with pictures of Maine scenes from the Ruth Weller Nelson collection.

P S T
6/16/54

September 15, 1953

Mrs. Inez Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Congratulations on your book, SO GOES THE NATION. Maine's families and ways are always rich in material, and we are delighted whenever we meet a new book interpreting the state to its friends and its own people.

The book is on our order list, but it is in behalf of another part of the library that we now write. Do you know of the Maine Author Collection? It is a permanent exhibit of books written by Maine people or about Maine subjects. The volumes are almost all inscribed presentation copies, and make a fine display of Maine literature, attracting visitors and students throughout the year. We are always happy to welcome a new book to the shelves, and we hope that you will want to inscribe and present a copy of SO GOES THE NATION for inclusion.

We also gather all available biographical data on our writers, but we have been unsuccessful in finding facts about you. We like to have on file the birthplace, birthdate, and a few facts -- a sort of Who's Who item. Could you help us by letting us have a paragraph or two of this sort of information?

Our warm good wishes go to you for the success of your book.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

for it has received some
very nice advance notices
and those who have read it
like it.

Thank you for your interest
and I hope to visit you
library some time.

Sincerely yours,

Frederic M. F. Farrington,



East Stoneham, Me.
Sept. 16, 1903.

Maine State Library
Augusta, Me.

SEP 21

Thank you for your congratulations on my
book. I am unable to tell you just
when it will be published but I surely
will be pleased to send you a copy.
As to my life story it is a common
one. Married to Harold Farrington.

five children, youngest age 13, Born
lived and educated in East Stoneham
Member of Minnehaha Temple, Pythian
Sisters, Maine Poetry Fellowship,
State Humaneat Committee.

Have been writing a weekly sports
article for years, Was the first
President of the States first stock
car Associations Auxillary, Very fond
of stock car and motorcycle racing.
Several poems read on radio, one
in England during War II, my first
book but second one nearly complete,
'Chin up Gail' read on Augusta
station. Like purple, speedy cars
and hell billy music, dislike
thunder storms and snakes and that
is my true life story.
I am proud and pleased to have you
use it in any way in your library,
I think you will like the book

September 24, 1953

Mrs. Harold Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you for the information, disappointing though it is, about your book. We are certainly sorry to hear that it is delayed. It sounds like a most entertaining and informative story. We shall look forward to the day when it is available. Good luck to you in ironing out those last problems of publication.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

June 8, 1954

Mrs. Harold Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Is it true? We read in the paper recently that your book (under a new title, MAINE IS FOREVER) is really to be available soon. We certainly hope this is correct. You must be anxious to see the finished product, and we are eager to have it, too.

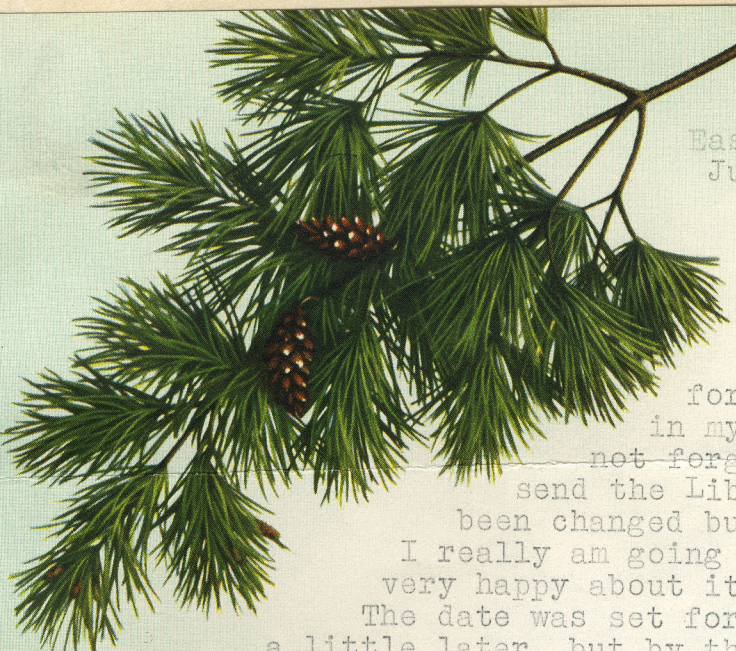
Do you remember that you promised the Maine Author Collection an inscribed copy? We look forward to its arrival; and just as soon as we know that MAINE IS FOREVER is actually published, we will of course send an order to a bookseller, so that the lending section of the library will have this new Maine book.

Congratulations, and good luck to it.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj



East Stoneham, Maine.

June 11, 1954.

Maine State Library.
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mrs Jacob. Many thanks
for your kind letter and interest
in my book. I certainly have

~~not forgotten my promise to~~

send the Library one. The title has
been changed but the book is the same.

I really am going to be proud of it and am
very happy about it.

The date was set for June 14th but it will be
a little later, but by the last of the month.

If you would care to have me I would be very glad
to make a personal visit to the Library when the
book is out. Although I have never visited it I
have called on its help many times and have always
been treated wonderful.

With out bragging I think you will like the book. It
is a simple story but it can not offend anyone and
to me it is really Maine as I see it and love it.
I will be on TV and will let you know the date if I
know in time.

Thank you for your interest and I do hope it will do
its small part in helping to advertise the beauty of
our State.

Sincerely Yours,

Inez M. Farrington

June 16, 1954

Mrs. Harold Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you for the information about your book. We shall watch for it, and for the reviews.

We have no staff photographers, or other real publicity channels, so we doubt that your visiting the library would in itself benefit sales, but we certainly hope that some day you will call in person. Thank you for your appreciative words. We hope we may continue to help you whenever you have need of our service. If you should be making personal appearances in this vicinity, at bookstores, or for interviews, do let us know.

It will be a wonderful day for you, we know, when the book is really published. Good luck to it.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

nmj

July 13, 1954

Mrs. Harold Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Congratulations upon the publication of your fine and entertaining and perceptive book, MAINE IS FOREVER. It is delightful, and we anticipate a popular career for it.

We are proud that the Maine Author Collection may so promptly boast the inclusion of this latest Maine book. Thank you very much indeed.

And don't stop with this one book!

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

July 12, 1954

Mrs. Harold Farrington

East Stoneham, Maine.
April, 16, 1956.

APR 20

Augusta State Library.

Augusta, Maine.

Dear Sirs. You may have heard that my second book MY MAINE FOLKS will be published soon. I would be delighted to have it added to Maine Is Forever in your library. Price two dollars until May 15, after that date two fifty. publishing date set for the last of May.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely Yours,

Luz M. Farrington.

STANDARD B & P "NOTEAR"

April 24, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

It is the best kind of news to learn of your new book, MY MAINE FOLKS. We shall certainly need it in the library, and we shall be able to place an order when we know more about it: that is, is it fiction or non-fiction? Do you prefer that it be ordered directly from you?

Publication is a little too late for MY MAINE FOLKS to be included in the Maine in Print column for the May Bulletin of the Maine Library Association, but we will have it in the August issue, in time for fall buying, we trust.

We hope that you will want to inscribe and present a copy for the Maine Author Collection, so that your writing may be completely represented in this Maine exhibit.

Good luck to the new book, which we look forward to seeing soon.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

B & P "NOTEAR"

June 7, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Because we know that MY MAINE FOLKS is due soon, we are a little concerned that we do not have information about ordering it. Perhaps our letter of April 24 failed to reach you. In it, we inquired whether the book is fiction or non-fiction. We should like to have gotten our order in at the pre-publication prices, but the number we order depends upon the book. If it is a novel, for instance, we shall want it for traveling libraries and bookmobile; if it is non-fiction, we shall need additional copies for the main library. Could you let us know about this, and also whether the orders should be placed directly with you or with a book dealer.

We shall hope to see the new volume soon.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

East Stoneham, Maine.
June. 8, 1956

Maine State Library.
Mrs F.W. Jacob
Augusta, Me.

Dear Mrs Jacob. I am very sorry that I neglected to answer your first letter. It has been a busy time and I am afraid I overlooked it in the rush.

My Maine Folks is non fiction something like Maine Is Forever. In it I went back to the year 1832 and used both history of this town and the State up to the present time.

I think it will be perfectly all right if you place your orders with me and if you do it can be obtained for the pre publication price of two dollars. I would advise you doing this at once, before the book is out which should be any time now. I would like to present the Maine Authors collection with one free copy.

It would be all right too, to place your orders with Bond Wheelwright, Freeport, Me.

This is a great summer resort and if you happen to be one of the many who will be up this way this summer please call on me. The State Library is one of my pet hobbies and would be delighted to see any one from there.

Sincerely,

Inez M. Farrington

June 15, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you for your letter about the new book.
Enclosed is our order for several copies.

Thank you, too, for the pleasant invitation.
If any of us are in your vicinity, we shall be
sure to take advantage of the opportunity.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

STANDARD B & P "NOISE"

July 20, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you very much for the Maine Author Collection copy of your new book, MY MAINE FOLKS, which arrived today. Is it likely that you will be in this vicinity soon? If you are, we should like to have you inscribe the book. If you are not, may we send it to you for that distinguishing touch?

It is a warm and friendly book, and we expect it to be popular. Our copies have come for the bookmobile and traveling library sections, too, and for the main library.

You have our good wishes for its success.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

ARD B & P "NOISE"

East Stoneham, Maine.
July, 21, 1956.

Dear Mrs Jacob.

Thank you for your nice letter about my new book. I doubt if I will be in Augusta for some time as I am working after noons now but if you will mail the book to me I will be very glad to autograph it. I had planned to do so and did not know that Mr Wheelwright had all ready sent it. It is selling very well in Norway and So. Paris but of course the real test is in other Towns. Thank you for your good wishes.

Sincerely,

Jay M. Fairington

STANDARD B & P "NOISEAR"

August 1, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

Thank you for the privilege of sending the
Maine Author Collection copy of your new book
to you for an inscription.

We are doing so today, and enclosing a label
and return postage for your convenience.

Sincerely yours

hmj
Encls.

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

STANDARD B & P "NOISEAR"

August 10, 1956

Mrs. Inez M. Farrington
East Stoneham
Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrington:

The inscribed copy of MY MAINE FOLKS for the
Maine Author Collection has arrived, and we thank
you for the kindness of adding this special touch
to the collection copy.

We hope that the book is doing well.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

FARRINGTON, INEZ

Place of birth: East Stoneham, Maine
Date of birth: June 1, 1904
Home address: Sedgewick Memorial Home, West Paris
Publications: My Maine Folks, Maine Is Forever, Down
Memory Lane. Bless This House.

Biographical information

My first two books were hard covers and in the Maine State Library. There are no more copies available. My last book of poems Bless This House is at the printers now and I will be glad to send you a copy and one of Down Memory Lane when I receive it.

I am a patient in this Nursing Home, Widow with five children. Have sold to Redbook and Sat. Evening Post. One poem read on radio in England.

My Prayer, one of my poems set to music and on tape. My books are in libraries in San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Houston where we spent our winters. I get many letters from Texas people in regard to these. Am an Honorary member of Corpus Christi. I have had a busy life and did so many things I would not want to brag about them but I have always kept writing. Thank you for including me in your list of authors, Yours Truly, Inez M Farrington